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RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R.
§1.116 EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP 3731

11-14-05

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Yoshio Onuki et al.

Examiner: Michael G. Mendoza

Serial No: 10/616,517

Art Unit: 3731

Filed: July 10, 2003

Docket: 15679

For: ENDOSCOPIC SUTURE
APPARATUS

Dated: October 12, 2005

Conf. No.: 1188

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Sir:

In response to the Final Official Action dated July 13, 2005, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the above-identified application in light of the following amendments and remarks:

Handwritten notes and signatures on the right margin, including "50/15/01" and "10/15/05".

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on October 12, 2005.

Dated: October 12, 2005

Thomas Spinelli